



8/23/99 Vehicle Rollover/Crushed

A 16-year-old tractor operator was killed when his tractor rolled into a ditch. The victim was the only part time employee, working a summer job, for a local farmer. The operator was driving the tractor, towing a hay baler, along a county road. He moved to the right side of the road to allow traffic to pass. The tractor's wheels hit a patch of gravel, causing the tires to slip, and the operator lost control. The tractor tires went into a ditch causing the vehicle to roll over. A witness stated that the operator attempted to jump from the vehicle, but was crushed when the tractor rolled on top of him.

Questions to ask?

- Have your workers been trained in the safe operation of the vehicles they're assigned to drive?
- Do you assess your workers skills before assigning them to operate equipment?
- Do you vehicles have roll over protection (ROPS)?
- Do you require the use of operator restraints (seatbelts)?